



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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Bureau of Credentialing  
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### **ALTERNATIVE 4 INFORMATION SHEET**

November 19, 2009

**TO:** Individuals Requesting Information Regarding Alternative 4

**FROM:** Jean Smolen, Bureau of Credentialing, 603-271-3872; jsmolen@ed.state.nh.us

#### **2009 - 2010 SCHOOL YEAR – CRITICAL SHORTAGE**

- Blind and Vision Disabilities
- Comprehensive Family & Consumer Science
- Comprehensive Technology Education  
(formerly Industrial Arts)
- Computer Technology Educator
- Deaf and Hearing Disabilities
- Early Childhood Special Education
- English for Speakers of Other Languages
- World Languages (Classical and Modern)
- General Special Education
- Special Education Categorical Areas:
  - Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities \*
  - Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities \*
  - Physical and Health Disabilities \*
  - Specific Learning Disabilities \*
- Library Media Specialist
- Mathematics (5-8)
- Mathematics (7-12)
- Sciences:
  - Chemistry (7-12)
  - Earth/Space Science (7-12)
  - Life Science
  - Middle School Science
  - Physics (7-12)
- Special Education Administrator
- Speech Language Specialist

**\* Categorical Areas that require certification in General Special Education or Early Childhood Special Education.**

School Business Administrator remains available through Alternative 4.

Candidates applying for a Statement of Eligibility must hold a conferred Bachelors degree to be found eligible.

Superintendents or agency heads may hire a candidate who holds a Statement of Eligibility (SOE) to pursue Alternative IV. This document is NOT a teaching certificate. The Superintendent submits an "In Process of Certification" form while the plan is being developed and the basic academic skills requirement is being met. Exemptions to the basic academic skills requirement include 1. Master's Degree or higher; 2. Seven or more years of educational experience under a credential issued by another state; or 3. Already New Hampshire certified in another content area.

To determine if the candidate qualifies for a **Statement of Eligibility**, the Bureau must have the following information:

1. Application. If certified, a letter stating the area being pursued via Alternative 4 (i.e. General Special Education, Comprehensive Technology Education, Career & Technology Specialties – Building Construction, etc.).
2. Official transcript(s).
3. Processing fee of \$50.00
4. Current work resume.
5. Copy of professional/trade license, if applicable.

Please be advised that the requirements listed above are required for **ALL AREAS**. See following pages for entry level criteria and additional requirements.

Once an individual holding a Statement of Eligibility (SOE) has been employed, the Superintendent must send a Personnel Action Form (PAF) to the Bureau of Credentialing (BOC) indicating the candidate has been employed in the area stated on the SOE. PAF information may be sent via email, [llandenberger@ed.state.nh.us](mailto:llandenberger@ed.state.nh.us). The request for the materials may be submitted by e-mail, telephone, or fax. The BOC will forward the requested materials for the plan to any person requesting the documents.

Administrative Rule, section 513.01, stipulates that individuals seeking initial certification must document basic academic skills. This requirement applies to all alternative routes to certification. The New Hampshire State Board of Education has chosen PRAXIS I (Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) or the Computerized Pre-Professional Skills Test (CPPST) as one means of documenting basic academic skills. In addition to the PRAXIS I, New Hampshire can accept the PRAXIS I composite score option, as well as equivalent tests. **Contact the Bureau for information regarding the composite score option and comparable tests.** The basic academic skills requirement must be met before a plan will be approved and an intern license issued.

Before a candidate receives a regular credential, the subject area assessment requirement, if applicable, must be met. Praxis II, or an equivalent test, is required for the following content areas: Chemistry, Earth/Space Science, Life Science, Middle School Mathematics, Middle School Science, Physics, Secondary Mathematics.

**EXEMPTIONS FOR BOTH PRAXIS I and II: Ed 513.01(b) (July 2003)**

- (1) Master's Degree or higher; or
- (2) Seven or more years of educational experience under a credential issued by another state.

PRAXIS information is available on the Educational Testing Service Website at [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis) or you may call the ETS toll free number 1-800-772-9476.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS for obtaining a Statement of Eligibility:**

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION THAT APPLIES TO ALL AREAS except Career and Technical Specialty areas:**

Documentation of a bachelor's degree.

**2. SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING CONTENT AREAS:**

**GENERAL SPECIAL EDUCATION/EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION:**

- Alternative 4 Candidates in General Special Education must either enroll in an approved collegiate certification program leading to certification in General Special Education or complete the Alternative 4 assessment and plan development process. This evaluation covers the base grade range of K-12.
- Early Childhood Special Education evaluation covers the base grade range of N-3.
- Categorical Special Education endorsement covers the base grade range of K-12.
- The resume should demonstrate experience in working with special education students.

*A candidate who wishes to pursue a categorical area endorsement in Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Physical and Health Disabilities, or Specific Learning Disabilities, must first hold certification in General Special Education or Early Childhood Special Education.*

**COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATOR:**

- Documentation of passing two college courses in computer technology, or
- Documented work experience in computer technology.

**LIFE SCIENCE:**

- Documentation of passing two college courses in biology, including a laboratory experience.

**CHEMISTRY:**

- Documentation of passing two college courses in chemistry, including a laboratory experience.

**EARTH/SPACE SCIENCE:**

- Documentation of passing two college courses in earth/space science, meteorology, oceanography, geology, or astronomy.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE:**

- Documentation of passing two college courses in the general science area such as biology, etc.

**PHYSICS:**

- Documentation of passing two college courses in physics, including a laboratory experience.

**MATHEMATICS - Grades 7-12 (Secondary):**

- Documentation of passing two college courses in calculus or its equivalent.

**MATHEMATICS - Grades 5-8 (Middle School):**

- Documentation of passing one college course in calculus or its equivalent.

**ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES:**

- Documentation of passing one college course in linguistics and one English as a Second Language college course, or two college courses in foreign language; or
- Documentation of competence in reading, writing, and speaking a foreign language.

**WORLD LANGUAGES:**

- Documentation of passing two college courses in a foreign language; or
- Documentation of competence in reading, writing, and speaking the language.

**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR:**

- Documentation of academic preparation or work experience in budget management, purchasing, inventory, and personnel management.

**COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE:**

- Documentation of college courses and/or work experience in two of the five program areas: 1. Human Growth and Development, or Early Childhood, or Parenting; 2. Family or Interpersonal Relationships; 3. Consumer and Resource Management; 4. Foods, Nutrition, or Wellness, 5a) Fashion or Interior Design **or** 5b) Hospitality, Tourism or Facilities Management.

**COMPREHENSIVE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (previously titled Industrial Arts):**

- Documentation of academic preparation or experience in two of the four program components:  
1. communications technology; 2. construction technology; 3. manufacturing technology; 4. energy, power, and transmission technology.

**LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST:**

- Documentation of passing two college courses in Library Science or
- Documented experience as a Librarian.

**SPEECH/LANGUAGE SPECIALIST:**

- Documentation of a bachelor's degree in Speech Pathology or Communications Disorders.  
**By plan completion, candidates for Speech/Language Specialist must obtain a master's degree in Communication Disorders or a closely related area.**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADMINISTRATOR:**

- Certification in an area of special education (Speech Language, School Psychologist, Special Education teacher).
- Documentation of coursework and/or experience in school administration.

**3. SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING CAREER AND TECHNICAL SPECIALTIES, e. g, Animal Science, Auto Mechanics, Building Construction, Child Services, Electronics, Mechanics, Plumbing, Robotics, TV Production, Welding (Bachelor degree not required):**

- Documentation of bachelor degree or higher in a career and technical education related area or
- Documentation of two (2) years of employer verified work experience in a career and technical area and official transcript if the candidate holds an associate degree or higher or
- Documentation of four (4) years of employer verified work experience in a career and technical area and a high school diploma if the candidate does not have a college degree and
- Copy of professional/trade license, if applicable.